

MSK-5005  
5 March 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Seoul Bureau - February 1985

I. OPERATIONS

Monitorial/Editorial

1. South Korea became a focal point of international media attention during February, as long-time dissident politician Kim Tae-chung returned from exile in the United States just prior to National Assembly elections that resulted in the emergence of a new opposition party which appears to command a great deal of popular support, particularly in urban areas.

Kim returned on the 8th, accompanied by a large entourage of U.S. political figures and newsmen, including Congressmen Thomas Foglietta and Edward Feighan, former Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights Patricia Derian, and former Ambassador to El Salvador Robert White. Kim's arrival at Kimpo Airport was chaotic, with a great deal of scuffling and pushing and shoving as Korean security police physically separated Kim from his accompanying entourage. American members of the entourage charged the Korean Government with inciting violence, and claimed that Embassy handling of the return was inept and callous. Embassy officers knew little of what actually happened during the arrival fracas because no one from the Embassy was allowed access to the deplaning area where the incident took place, so they quickly turned to the Bureau for media accounts. The Bureau hand-carried numerous items from AFP and KYODO, filed by Hong Kong and Okinawa Bureaus, to the Ambassador and Embassy political officers. In addition, Okinawa provided a videotape of Japanese television coverage of the arrival, which the Bureau made available for Embassy viewing.

The National Assembly elections on the 12th thrust a new opposition party, the NKDP, into national prominence. The NKDP, which is Kim Tae-chung's party though he is banned from active participation in politics, was formed only two months before the elections. It won many seats outright and virtually swept the major urban areas of Seoul and Pusan, but the Korean electoral system is loaded so heavily in favor of the ruling DJP that the NKDP has only 67 of the National Assembly's 276 seats. The Bureau supplied election results well into the night on the 12th, calling the Political Counselor and other officers at home at their request. President Chon realigned the ROK cabinet on the 18th in the aftermath of what is perceived as a major electoral defeat for the DJP. The Ambassador and other senior Embassy officers were called at home and given the new list of ministerial appointments.

2. Several other issues during the month also pointed to the Bureau's close involvement with various Embassy sections. The Bureau kept Embassy and military officials informed of ROK media reportage on the discovery that some 80 Hughes helicopters had been secretly diverted from the U.S. to North Korea. On two occasions the Bureau hand-delivered to the Ambassador's office statements in the media that the ROK Government planned to protest to the U.S. on its handling of the incident. The press reports proved accurate.

The leadership issue in North Korea also concerned the Bureau, as heir-apparent Kim Chong-il remained out of public view for over three months, fueling numerous rumors. His appearance on 24 February along with other major leaders while voting in local parliamentary elections was quickly filed. The Bureau pointed out to the Embassy political section the appearance on this list of Kim Chung-nin, who seemed to have fallen from favor following the Rangoon bombing in October 1983, and an appearance of Kim with Kim Il-song later in the month. The Embassy used this information in refuting Chinese claims that Kim Chung-nin remained in disgrace.

II. VISITS

STAT 1. Chief of FBIS Administrative Staff [redacted] was in Seoul from 17-21 February for consultations and orientation.

STAT 2. [redacted] visited the Bureau from 25-28 February as part of a tour of Far East bureaus.

STAT 3. [redacted] DIA team chief responsible for analysis of North Korean ground forces, visited the Bureau on the 11th for a briefing. [redacted] was in Seoul for an orientation and consultations with U.S. military analysts.

[redacted]  
Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment:  
Monthly Production Report

cc: Acting Chief, Okinawa Bureau  
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

SEOUL BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR February, 1985I. TOTAL FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 561,970  
 TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 157,570  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 1,431

	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS	PUBLI-CATIONS
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II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:  
(minutes or issues per week)

13,020	5,850	90
min	min	issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)

## CHINA (PRC)

Beijing in

Korean to Korea	4,750
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	11,340
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	11,170
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	8,900
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	10,700
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	6,790
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	10,050
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese	6,300
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese	4,580
Hohhot NEIMENGGU RIBAO in Chinese	1,700
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese	2,950
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese	2,350
Taiyuan SHANXI RIBAO in Chinese	400
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese	11,750
CLANDESTINE (Clandestine) Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification in Korean to South Korea	32,100

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
KOREA (NORTH)			
Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	155,650		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		145,360	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean			500
KOREA (SOUTH)			
Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	2,300		
Seoul YONHAP in English		26,540	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			200
Seoul CHUANGANG ILBO in Korean			3,550
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			100
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			2,100
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			-0-
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			49,270
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			40,700
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			3,500
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow in Korean to Korea	6,370		